



December, 2023

Dear AFT CT Brothers and Sister Retirees,

It was a productive year for AFT CT Retirees. Thanks to the work of AFT CT's Retiree Council, AFT Local members, (both retired and active), and AFT CT staff, has resulted in positive outcomes which will benefit all retirees currently residing in Connecticut, but especially to retired teachers.

I want to particularly thank all of you that voted for the candidates for the newly created seats on the Teachers Retirement Board (TRB). These will go a long way to assure retiree input in the work of the Teachers Retirement Board.

I have attached a summary of the outcomes of legislative actions passed in 2023.

Also, for those who have an interest in all the retiree activities that AFT CT Retiree Chapters have, check with the active Local you retired from for information regarding their retiree activities. If your in-service local doesn't have a Retiree Chapter you are eligible to join the CT At-Large Retiree Council, Local 8006R. Information for the At Large Council is also attached.

If any of you have further questions or seek additional information about AFT CT and AFT retirement programs, please contact me.

In Solidarity

Walter O'Connor

Retiree Division Vice President, AFT CT

AFT Program and Policy Council for Retirees

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AFT Connecticut
AFT, AFL-CIO

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SUMMARY 2023 LEGISLATIVE GAINS

For retired teachers - the creation of two new seats on the Teachers Retirement Board (TRB) that is exclusively earmarked for retired teachers by the state legislature. The terms of office for these two retiree seats is four years. This will assure that the balance between current retiree and future retiree benefits are addressed in the TRB.

For all retirees in Connecticut - beginning with the 2024 tax year, the taxation, for Connecticut income tax, of all forms of retirement income can be reduced depending upon your adjusted gross income and filing status. There is potentially significant tax savings.

For all retirees in Connecticut - legislation was passed requiring that hospitals achieve and maintain adequate Registered Nursing staff levels (the number of patients a Registered Nurse is responsible for). This will improve the safety of all hospitalized patients. Decades of Nursing research has shown that when a Registered Nurse cares for too many patients the healthcare outcomes for those patient can be significantly decreased or lead to death. An additional benefit will be the improved working conditions which will go a long way to alleviate the Registered Nurse shortage currently and chronically in CT Hospitals.

Welcome

to the AFT Connecticut At-Large Retiree Council, Local 8006R

Why Join ?

- To remain well informed regarding issues that effect retirees;
- To receive important and current information about topics of interest to retirees such as Social Security and Medicare;
- To protect our healthcare;
- To protect and improve the sources of our retirement income;
- To have a continuing voice in the Union and the direction the union takes regarding our interests; &
- To have a venue to remain socially/politically active on the state and national levels.

Our Retiree Union works with you & for you, but we need you if we are going to be strong.

AFT Connecticut lobbyists, staff and members, both active and retired work tirelessly at the Capitol to ensure the passage of Bills that support our union, working families, and retiree issues. Members also have the potential to work on National Issues through AFT Retirees.

Additionally, there are opportunities to join social activities such as luncheons, conferences and trips.

You can be involved in as much or as little as you would like.

Walter O'Connor
President 8006R
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Cell 203 788 0309

Membership application to Local 8006R

Last name _____ First name _____ Middle _____

Year you retired _____ Local # you retired from _____

Current home address _____

City _____ State _____ ZipCode _____

Preferred phone number _____
Home or cell

Preferred E-Mail _____

Signature _____ Date Signed _____

Dues: \$20 Annually _____ or a Lifetime Members \$250* _____

* Life time membership can be broken down to \$50 annually for 5 years

Enclose a check made out to AFT Connecticut and mail to:

AFT Connecticut
35 Marshall Road
Rocky Hill, C T 06067

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 am at the Rocky Hill AFT CT office either in person or via Zoom

Voluntary COPE contribution can be made at anytime via a separate check made out to AFT Connecticut COPE.